
The UK's official climate change advisers have warned that households and businesses will have to make even deeper emissions cuts than previously planned, from 80% to 90% by 2050, so the aviation sector can continue to grow. Roger Harrabin reports:

Aviation **is perpetually contentious** in **debates** on climate change. The government says it wants people to be able to fly on holiday. But there's currently no technology that can **radically cut emissions** from planes.

The Climate Change Committee **spells out the implications** of that **tension**. The rest of the economy, it says, may have to cut its emissions 90% by 2050, so people can carry on flying in the meantime. The current **target** for the whole economy is 80%.

Green groups immediately demanded that the government should **scrap** its plans to expand Heathrow and other airports.

The Committee says aviation is a global problem, so it needs to be included in any **deal** in the coming climate change talks at the UN. Emissions from aviation in rich countries **should be capped**, then forced to return to 2005 levels, it says. Flying in poor countries should be allowed to grow for a while.

The government says it already supports the **target** of getting aviation emissions down to 2005 levels. But **critics doubt ministers' plans** for emissions to fall whilst aviation grows.

Roger Harrabin, BBC News

Vocabulary and definitions

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| is perpetually contentious | constantly causes disagreement |
| debates | serious discussions involving many people |
| radically cut emissions | significantly reduce the amounts of harmful gases |
| spells out the implications | clearly explains what the consequences/results might be |
| tension | here, an uneasy situation |
| target | here, certain results that must be achieved |
| scrap | cancel, abandon, abolish, stop |
| deal | here, official agreement between many countries |
| should be capped | should be limited, must not be allowed to grow any further |
| critics doubt ministers' plans | people who disapprove of ministers' plans say they are not sure they will work |

More on this story: <http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/sci/tech/8243922.stm>

Read and listen to the story and the vocabulary online:

http://www.bbc.co.uk/worldservice/learningenglish/language/wordsinthenews/2009/09/090911_witn_aviation_climate.shtml